

TITLE

A PROCESS FOR MAKING A FLEXOGRAPHIC PRINTING PLATE AND A
PHOTOSENSITIVE ELEMENT FOR USE IN THE PROCESS

ABSTRACT

5 The invention relates to a process for preparing a flexographic printing plate from a photosensitive element having a photopolymerizable layer and a thermally removable layer on the photopolymerizable layer. The process includes imagewise exposing the photosensitive element and thermally treating the exposed element to form a relief suitable for use in flexographic printing. The
10 thermally removable layer can be transparent or opaque to actinic radiation. The invention also relates to a photosensitive element for use in this process. The photosensitive element includes a photopolymerizable layer and at least one thermally removable layer having a filler and a binder, wherein the binder is less than 49% by weight, based on the total weight of the binder and filler.

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THM/dmm